

Arizona News Release

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Press Release Announcement - January 23, 2006 - For Immediate Release

Arizona Cattle on Feed Inventory Up 1 Percent From Last Year

On January 1, 2006, Arizona had 334,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 1 percent from a year ago and up 6,000 head from last month. Placements totaled 35,000 head, 2,000 head more than a year ago. During December, 27,000 head were marketed, 3,000 less than last December.

On January 1, 2006, California had 550,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 3 percent from last year, but the same as last month. Placements totaled 69,000 head, down 3,000 head from last year. During December, 60,000 head were marketed, down 2,000 head from last December.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.8 million head on January 1, 2006. The inventory was 4 percent above January 1, 2005 and 5 percent above January 1, 2004. The inventory included 7.57 million steers and steer calves, up 6 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.15 million head, up 2 percent from January 1, 2005.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.88 million, 3 percent above 2004 and 8 percent above 2003. This is the highest placements for the month of December since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.79 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 575,000, 600-699 pounds were 554,000, 700-799 pounds were 30,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 325,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.72 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 1 percent below 2003.

Other disappearance totaled 91,000 during December, 1 percent below 2004 but 1 percent above 2003.

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